

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0060] A method for preventing a carbon dispersion from increasing in viscosity during use is described. The dispersion comprises graphite particles or carbon black particles or a combination of both dispersed in a fluid. The method involves lowering the susceptibility of the carbon dispersion to an increase in viscosity or ionic strength by lowering its pH or reducing its exposure to reactive components in the ambient atmospheric gas. The pH can be lowered by at least partially removing ammonia from the dispersion, or by adding a material that reduces the pH of the dispersion. The stability of the dispersion can also be improved by isolating the dispersion from reactive atmospheric gas. The stabilized aqueous carbon dispersion can have a viscosity of less than about 20 cps and a conductivity of less than about 3 mS.